Attorney Docket No. 2004P00169WOUS

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Silvio Hamm et al
Application Number:	Unassigned
Filing Date:	Concurrently Herewith
Group Art Unit:	
Examiner:	
Title:	VACUUM CLEANER COMPRISING AN OPERATING ROCKER

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, I am submitting a completed "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" *(Form PTO/SB/08A)* with patents and/or publications as delineated therein attached.

DE 196 07 148 discloses the switch wiper (1) has at least 2 operating elements (13) on 2 opposing sides (12), for operating the vacuum cleaner electrical on-off switch and the release mechanism for a brake acting on a cable winding drum contained within the vacuum cleaner housing. The sides of the switch wiper have retaining rails (3) cooperating with support rails (4) provided by the vacuum cleaner housing via a spring force acting on the switch wiper. The switch wiper has a stop element (16) adjacent one of the operating elements cooperating with a stop (15) provided by the vacuum cleaner housing.

DE 199 47 980 discloses that the invention relates to a vacuum cleaner which comprises a fan chamber for an aspirator and the control electronics thereof as well as operating elements on the body of the vacuum cleaner for electrically controlling the power of the aspirator. The operating elements are combined to form a subassembly over the fan chamber. The subassembly with the operating elements (12, 12a to 12c) is composed of a centre piece (12b) which can be connected to control electronics (31) of the vacuum cleaner (1) and serves for accommodating power regulators (20) and/or display elements and at least one control key (12a, 12c) which is mounted to the centre piece (12b) and serves for

switching on and off the motor of the aspirator. A carrier element (17) that is fitted with plug connectors (15, 16) and optionally additional electric components for controlling power is arranged at the lower side of the centre piece (12b). The plug connectors (15, 16) provide a power connection to the electric components of the operating elements (12). The carrier element (17) sealingly covers at least one opening (21) of the body in the direction of the fan chamber (3). Said opening is situated in the upper component (10) pertaining to the body of the vacuum cleaner (1). The control electronics (31) with the cooling bodies (22) of the power switches are arranged in the area of the opening and are cooled by the outgoing air stream of the fan. Plug connecting devices (28, 29) that provide the conducting connection to the control electronics (31), the aspirator (4), the cable drum and the like and that correspond to the plug connectors (15, 16) are arranged in the body (2). The conducting and flexible wiring between the control electronics and the operating elements which are combined in a subassembly can be optimised and the assembly can be simplified by means of the inventive measures. Cooling problems in the power switches are prevented.

DE 44 13 884 discloses that the housing of the vacuum cleaner has an adjustable slide unit (7) that can be moved over a linear range (SB) to vary the speed of the motor. The slide unit is fixed to a flexible toothed rack element (9) that is in mesh with a pinion gear (10) coupled to a potentiometer that adjusts the motor (11) operating point. The rack element can adopt the profile of the housing inner surface.

EP 1 297 775 discloses that the vacuum cleaner (SS) has a number of operating controls (BE1,BE2) including at least one foot-operated push-button and at least one foot-operated slider. Each operating control has an external operating surface component of a material , e.g. an elastomer, which is softer than the relatively hard material for the remainder of the operating control.

If no translation of pertinent portions of any foreign language patents or publications mentioned within the "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" is included with the aforementioned copies of those applications, patents and/or publications, it is because no existing translation is readily available to the Applicants. As per the Notice in

1273 OG 55 (August 5, 2003) no copies of any above-mentioned US patents and US patent application publications are submitted for this application which was filed after June 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted

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July 26, 2006

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known	
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First Named Inventor	Silvio Hamm et al
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	2004P00169WOUS

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Document Number Number-Kind Code[2] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document Country Code[3]-Number[4]-Kind Code[5] (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]
/DR/		DE 196 07 148	08/28/1997	Manfred Prell et al		
		DE 199 47 980	04/19/2001	Klaus Bartsch et al		
		DE 44 13 884	10/26/1995	Helmut Brinkoff		
		EP 1 297 775	04/02/2003	Wilma Albert et al		
/DR/		International Search Report PCT/EP2005/050324				✔

Examiner Signature	/David Redding/ (08/30/2010)	Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. [1] Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). [2] See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. [3] Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [4] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [6] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.